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PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in or relating to guttering

We, MALCOLM NEVILLE SHUTE, a British subject, of 138 Shadwell Lane, Leeds 17, Yorkshire, and BRIAN WADE, a British subject, of 54, Dominion Avenue, Leeds 7, Yorkshire, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a Patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

10 This invention relates to building components and is particularly concerned with the provision of a combined fascia-soffit-guttering unit.

It has previously been proposed to provide a combined fascia and soffit unit, but such a unit required a guttering to be attached thereto to carry away rain water to associated fall-pipes. It has also been proposed to provide a combined soffit-fascia-guttering unit, but such proposals had certain inherent disadvantages in use.

20 The present invention seeks to obviate this requirement and also the fixing of separate fascias, soffits and gutterings by providing a one-piece structure capable of being quickly and economically fixed in position.

Accordingly, the present invention provides a combined fascia-soffit-guttering unit comprising a first portion of sufficient depth to form a fascia, a second portion of sufficient width to form a soffit, and a third portion adapted to form a guttering, said second and third portions being integral with said first portion and extending in the same general direction away from said first portion.

In order that the invention may be more readily understood, reference will now be made to the accompanying drawings which illustrate a preferred embodiment of the invention. In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a perspective end view of a unit according to the invention;

unit according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a sectional end view of an alternative form of unit or of a unit adapted to be used in conjunction with the unit of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a sectional end elevation showing the unit of Figure 2 in operative position; and

Figure 4 is an alternative form of the invention.

Referring firstly to Figure 1, the combined fascia-soffit-guttering comprises a one-piece structure consisting of a horizontal arm 2 of sufficient width to form a soffit, a vertical arm or front face 4 of sufficient depth to form a fascia and a V-shaped portion 6 adapted to form a guttering.

The horizontal arm 2 has, at a position near the junction of the arms 2 and 4, a longitudinal, inwardly extending anti-capillary groove 8 and a further groove 8A, and the portion 6 is provided near its free extremity with a longitudinal outwardly extending groove 10, the purpose of which grooves will be explained below. A flange or lip 12 is also provided.

Figure 2 illustrates a one-piece unit similar to that illustrated in Figure 1, in that it has all the integers 2, 4, 6, 8, 8A, 10 and 12. In this case however, the unit between the two sides of the V-shaped portion 6, is provided with an integral fall-pipe 16 which extends downwardly to a point below the horizontal arm 2. The top of the fall-pipe 16 is preferably shaped to match the cross-sectional shape of the V-shaped portion 6 and lies flush with or slightly below the upper surface of said portion. A through-bore 14 is provided in the guttering for the escape of rainwater into the fall-pipe 16.

The combined fascia-soffit-guttering unit will preferably be formed by moulding and

will be composed of fibre-glass reinforced plastics material. The unit may be formed to any desired length and will preferably be of uniform thickness throughout its section.

5 Referring now to Figure 3, the combined fascia-soffit, guttering unit is adapted to be attached to roof spars such as that indicated at 20, by means of pins 22 having gaskets 24 or by any other suitable securing means.

10 The pins pass through roofing felt which as will be seen overlaps the free extremity of the upwardly extending portion of the guttering. The roof tile 25 is adapted to overlie the point of securing. Similarly, the horizontal arm 2 is secured by passing pins through the groove 8 and is also similarly secured at its free extremity. Thus it will be seen that the majority of the unit is kept away from contact with the spars.

20 When a unit according to the invention and incorporating the fall-pipe 16 is located in position, for example between two of the units shown in Figure 1, the flanged or lipped ends of the units will overlap so as

25 to facilitate free passage of rain water to the fall pipe and the overlapping portion may be provided with a building sealant or use may be made of other suitable fillers.

Where fibre-glass reinforced plastic is used to form the unit, the material may be coloured prior to moulding which will thus obviate the need for subsequent painting of the unit.

Referring now to Figure 4, instead of the unit being provided with a horizontal arm adapted to form the soffit, the unit has an arm 26 which is arranged so as not to be normal to the vertical arm 4. Other features of the embodiment are as previously described with reference to Figures 1 and 2.

The unit of this embodiment is intended to be used on a building having overhanging roof spars, and it will be appreciated that the arm 26 may be arranged at any angle to suit the angle of inclination of the roof spars 20, so that the arm 26 may lie adjacent to and underlie the roof spars. Also the roof tile 25 will preferably rest on the groove 10.

Where necessary, the unit, whilst forming a combined fascia-soffit-guttering unit may be formed with or as corner units, either inwardly or outwardly extending so as to facilitate positioning of a unit around the full perimeter of a roof. Also, integral or attached end plates may be provided where such a unit is not required around the full perimeter.

60 If desired, the guttering may be of rounded or arcuate shape instead of being V-shaped and the longitudinally extending ribs may be omitted if desired.

It will be appreciated that with a unit according to the invention, the tedious and

time-consuming operations of fixing separate fascias, soffits and gutterings is eliminated since all these parts are incorporated into a single unit. It will also be appreciated that since the upper extremity of the vertical arm 4 lies below the horizontal plane containing the upper extremity of the longer arm of the guttering, this will enable water to spill over the fascia in the event of outlet blockage, and thus not to overflow under the tiles and under the roof space.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A combined fascia-soffit-guttering unit comprising a first portion of sufficient depth to form a fascia, a second portion of sufficient width to form a soffit, and a third portion adapted to form a guttering, said second and third portions being integral with said first portion and extending in the same general direction away from said first portion.

2. A unit according to claim 1, wherein said second portion is horizontal.

3. A unit according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein said guttering is substantially V-shaped in cross-section, one arm of said V-shape remote from said first portion being of a greater length than a second arm of said V-shape.

4. A unit according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein said guttering is of rounded or arcuate cross-section, one side of said rounded or arcuate cross-section extending to a higher position than the other side of said cross-section.

5. A unit according to any of Claims 1 to 4, wherein said guttering and said second portion are each provided with at least one longitudinally extending anti-capillary groove.

6. A unit according to any of Claims 1 to 5, wherein said unit is provided with a lip or flange such that a plurality of units may be arranged in overlapping relationship.

7. A unit according to any of the preceding Claims, wherein said guttering is provided with an integral fall-pipe which extends downwardly to a point below said first portion and which has its upper surface shaped to match the cross-sectional shape of the guttering.

8. A unit according to any of the preceding Claims, wherein said unit is formed by moulding and is composed of fibre-glass reinforced plastics material.

9. A combined fascia-soffit-guttering unit substantially as herein described with reference to and as illustrated in Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings.

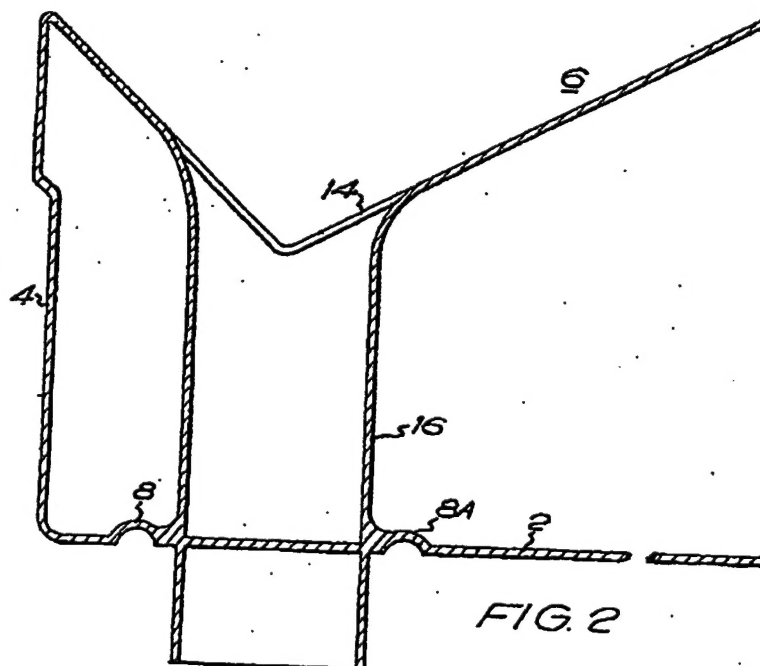
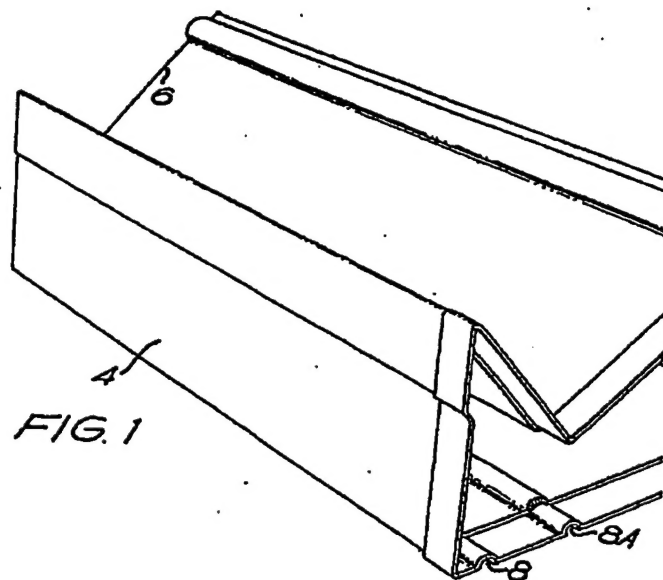
10. A combined fascia-soffit-guttering unit substantially as herein described with reference to and as illustrated in Figure 2 of the accompanying drawings.

11. A combined fascia-soffit-guttering

unit substantially as herein described,
with reference to and as illustrated in
Figure 4 of the accompanying drawings.

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